



**Family History Gaps:
DNA for Health & Heritage**
(An Alabama Bicentennial Conference)

Saturday, February 2, 2019

AGENDA

Time	Session	Speaker
8:45-9:15	Registration & Coffee	
9:15-9:30	Welcome <i>Donna Baker</i> Bicentennial Greetings <i>Sally Warden</i>	
9:30-10:30	A Primer on the Basics of DNA <i>Neil Lamb, HudsonAlpha</i>	
10:30-10:45	Break	
10:45-12:00	Keynote: Empowering Self-Discovery Through DNA Science <i>Jennifer Utley, Ancestry.com</i>	
12:00-1:15	Lunch Risks and Rewards of DNA Relatives: A Personal Perspective <i>Greg Barsh, HudsonAlpha</i>	
1:15-1:30	Break	
Concurrent Sessions		
	Track One—Genetics & Health	Track Two—Genealogy & DNA
1:30-2:30	Genetic Testing & Predisposition to Disease <i>Tom May (HudsonAlpha)</i>	Understanding Your DNA Results <i>Liberty Evanko, Family Trees by Dr. E</i>
2:30-2:45	Break	
2:45-3:45	Genetic Testing in Healthcare <i>Whitley Kelley (HudsonAlpha)</i>	Using DNA Results to Grow Your Tree <i>Liberty Evanko (continued)</i>

FAMILY HISTORY GAPS

DNA FOR HEALTH & HERITAGE



Family History Gaps: DNA for Health & Heritage

(An Alabama Bicentennial Conference)

Saturday, February 2, 2019



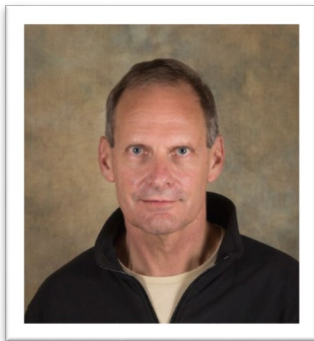
KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

Jennifer Utley is the Director of Research for Ancestry. She has worked for Ancestry since 1997, making her the longest tenured employee of the company. In her current role, she oversees research for the PR team and the Ancestry research for the television shows, *Who Do You Think You Are?* and *Long Lost Family*. In researching her own family tree, she is currently working on tracing all the female descendants of her 4th great-grandmother on her maternal side. It's a long story.

TITLE: Empowering Self-Discovery through DNA Science

SYNOPSIS:

Ancestry's mission is to empower journeys of personal discovery to enrich lives. In this talk, Ancestry's Director of Scientific Communications, Barry Starr, will showcase the power of DNA and how the data science team at Ancestry assists people in their self-discovery – and the implications those discoveries can have.



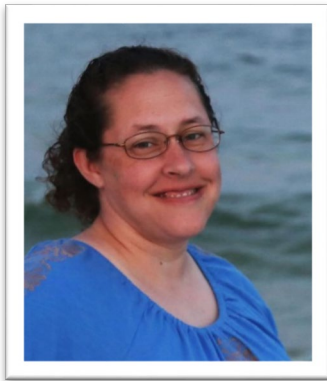
SPEAKER:

Greg Barsh is an Investigator and Faculty Chair at the HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology in Huntsville, Alabama, and also holds faculty appointments at UAB and at Stanford University. He received an MD and PhD from the University of Washington, and obtained postgraduate medical genetics training at UC Los Angeles and UC San Francisco. He has served as Director of the Stanford Medical Scientist Training Program, Chair of the NIH study section on Genetics and Health of Disease, and is currently an Editor-in-Chief of PLOS Genetics. His research group studies the genetics of morphologic variation within and between species as a means to better understand fundamental aspects of developmental and evolutionary biology. He also helps lead several large medical genomics projects based at HudsonAlpha and UAB.

TITLE: Risks and rewards of DNA relatives: a personal perspective

SYNOPSIS:

The rapidly expanding landscape of direct to consumer genomic testing has created an unparalleled opportunity to learn more about ourselves from a number of different perspectives. Where did I come from, who are my relatives, and what does it mean for my family? These questions can now be explored with unprecedented precision and detail, but also bring with them risks and responsibilities. I will discuss some of these questions from the perspective of both a geneticist and a DNA relative.



SPEAKER:

Dr. Liberty Evanko (nee Schwendiman) is a highly advanced genealogist who has been Bringing Heritages to Life for over 20 years. Incorporating DNA into genealogical research has become her passion. She enjoys providing genealogy education to individuals and groups, both the young and young at heart. In addition to her family history knowledge and skills, Dr. E also holds a PhD in Physics and Astronomy from Brigham Young University. Dr. Evanko can be contacted through her website at www.FamilyTreesbyDrE.com.

TITLE: Understanding Your DNA Results

Description: Taking the plunge into DNA testing is a fantastic adventure! This presentation will explore the why, where, and who to test. Then, we will delve into how to understand your much-anticipated results. Demonstrations will illustrate how to use your DNA results to enhance your genealogy... from ethnicity estimates to cousin connections and contacting matches. Presented case studies will include “Evanko Ethnicity Jumps the Pond” and “Putting Flesh on the Bones of Great-Grandpa.”

TITLE: Using DNA Results to Grow Your Tree

Description: DNA results become tools in a genealogist's tool box when they are used in conjunction with traditional research methods. DNA matches can be used to verify and grow your family tree. This presentation will outline procedures to get from DNA match to genealogy results. Topics will include: shared matches, mining profiles, "quick and dirty trees," and contacting cousins. Demonstration of case studies, such as “DNA Grows the Evanko Family Tree” and “The Tutor’s Biological Parents,” will illustrate the procedures.



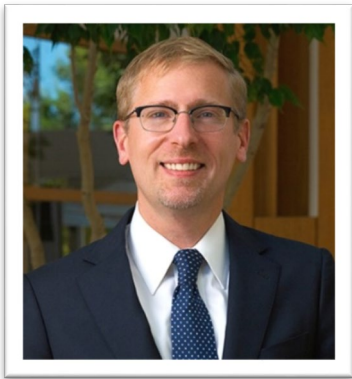
SPEAKER:

Whitley Kelley is a board-certified genetic counselor originally from Carbon Hill, AL. She received a Bachelor of Science in Cell and Molecular Biology from Auburn University and a Master of Science in Genetic Counseling from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Genetic counselor for HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology's pediatric genomics research projects and The Smith Family Clinic for Genomic Medicine, Whitley's interests include developing innovative ways to use genetic counseling and education to impact underserved patient populations. She is a member of both the National Society of Genetic Counselors and the American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics.

TITLE: Genetic Testing in Healthcare

SYNOPSIS:

This session will provide an overview of how different genetic and genomic technologies are currently utilized in healthcare. Uses of these tests include diagnosing current symptoms, assessing risk for future illness, and providing information about disease risk for children and other family members. This session will also review the risks, benefits, and limitations of the current clinical genetic testing landscape, including privacy concerns and implications for relatives.



SPEAKER:

Dr. Neil Lamb is the Vice President for Educational Outreach at the HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology. He holds a Ph.D. in Genetics and Molecular Biology from Emory University and is the 2018 recipient of the NSTA Faraday Science Communicator Award.

TITLE: A Primer on the Basics of DNA

SYNOPSIS:

This session will introduce the basics of DNA and genetic testing. We'll explore how variation in our genetic code impacts human health and disease and is used in ancestry, forensics and predictive testing.



SPEAKER:

Thomas May, PhD is currently Floyd and Judy Rogers Endowed Professor, Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine, Washington State University; Faculty Investigator at HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology, and Adjunct Professor in the Institute for Aging at the University of California San Francisco. In addition to serving on the American Philosophical Association’s Committee on Philosophy and Medicine and the American Public Health Association’s Ethics Forum, Dr. May has served as an advisor to the National Vaccine Program Office, the Florida Department of Health, the Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Commission, and the Wisconsin Task Force on Emergency Preparedness. Dr. May has written extensively on Clinical Ethics, Public Health

Ethics, and Genomic Medicine, publishing in leading journals in the biomedical sciences (e.g. Nature; Science), medicine (e.g. JAMA; New England Journal of Medicine), public health (e.g. American Journal of Public Health; Milbank Quarterly), Philosophy (e.g. American Philosophical Quarterly; Monist), and Bioethics (e.g. American Journal of Bioethics; Hastings Center Report).

TITLE: Genetic testing and predisposition to disease

SYNOPSIS:

This session will explore the types of inherited disease information that adoptees and others with family “unknowns” have identified as most sought after, the role such information might play in their lives, and the challenges and benefits to filling gaps in traditional family health history through genetic testing.

